Ravalli county Commissioners

Ladies and gentleman

My wife and I reside within a <u>voluntary zoning district,</u> within Ravalli County, <u>by our own choice,</u> and we would both agree that some zoning is likely necessary to protect the valley from self centered actions by the valleys citizens but these regulations need to be kept to an absolute minimum, as un-invasive as possible for the citizens living here now and for a future populace, as well for business and industry. In the past weeks it appears that these proposed regulations have been made less restrictive and I applaud this effort, but as one hand try's to oblige the wishes of the people Others work to force heavy restrictions upon the citizenry, I am referring to the committee that is drafting the streamside set back regulations, there agenda is focused on fish, wildlife and waters with little regard to the taxpaying citizens who presently reside in Ravalli County.

The following is only but one of the heavy restrictions trying to be leveled on the peoples of this valley.

Draft 2 Ravalli County streamside set back protection regulation
Dated 08/12/2008
Section 3; USES ALLOWED WITHIN THE BUFFER
Page 12
<u>Vegetation</u>
Removal of vegetation reasonably required to protect personal property from the threat of wildfire or to remove a threat to public safety shall be allowed.
Response;
You are bordering on a taking of private properties when you fail to allow the homeowner to protect their property from inherent dangers that exist, meaning any and all threats to their properties, such as trees and limbs, fire and wind, you have limited the abilities of the homeowner to protect their properties when you are specific as to what the landowner can do and limit said owner to only the threat of wild fire and for public safety.
The property owner and the buildings on the property are not protected under public safety. This regulation needs to be reworded or removed.

Gary Rouse
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